OLD CAPITOL

University of Iowa, Iowa City

Built between 1840 and 1842 as the third capitol of Iowa Territory thus became the first state capitol when Iowa was admitted to the Union in 1846. When the state government moved to Des Moines in 1857, the former capitol became the first permanent building of the University of Iowa. Built of stone, fronted with a pedimented Doric portico, and topped with a dome, the capitol is a nationally important example of Greek Revival architecture. It was designed by architect John F. Rague and was meticulously restored in the 1970s. It is open to the public as the Old Capitol Museum.